

Serenity Sentinel

FREEDOM

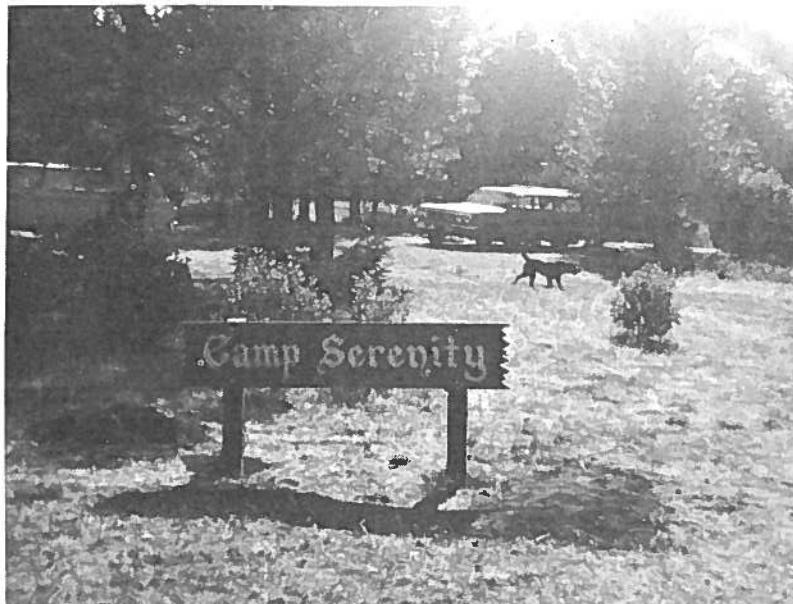
FAITH

FRATERNITY

NOVEMBER 1969

CAMP SERENITY, N.S.A.C., FOREST KNOLLS, CA 94933

VOL. 1, NO. 10



CAMP SERENITY CAMP GROUNDS

OPEN DOORS AT SAN RAFAEL HIGH

by Betty Clair

Wednesday morning, October 1, 1969, Mr. Richard P. Goodwin, President of Camp Serenity, presented the Science, Philosophy, and Religion of Modern Spiritualism to over 150 students in combined classes studying history and psychology.

It was with a deep feeling of gratitude that Mr. Goodwin accepted the opportunity to present our religion in the high school.

Through the efforts of Mr. Truchan and Mr. Douvos, who are holding classes on the various religions (Baptist, Quaker, Spiritualist, Roman Catholic, Christian Science, Unitarian, Buddhist, Mormon, Jehovah Witness, Episcopalian, Humanist and Vedanta) in the course of their history study, the doors to San Rafael High School were opened to an understanding of Modern Spiritualism as presented by the NSAC.

In the interest of our readers we

present some of the many questions asked by these inquiring young minds. Due to the limitations of space in our paper the answers have been left out but may be obtained by sending your request to the Editorial Dept., Serenity Sentinel.

Questions:

- Can you communicate with spirit now?
- With whom can you communicate?
- What does spirit look like?
- Do you see in your mind or how?
- I don't understand why you can see spirit and I can not.
- If someone comes to a medium and asks to make contact with a spirit, can that person see them as you see them?
- If you contact my father how do I know it's my father?
- Why did you decide to become a Spiritualist?
- What do you say when you contact

CONT'D ON PAGE 2

Anniversary

Staff Reporter

The culminating point in the history of Camp Serenity's first year of growth was reached Saturday, September 20, 1969 with the first anniversary social in honor of our camp's progress and attainment.

A lavish buffet dinner was served in the Clubhouse of the Casitas Alameda Townhouses on Bay Farm Island with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bray as host and hostess for this momentous occasion. The focal point was the table upon which the decorative anniversary cake was centered amidst a floral arrangement of green and white carnations. Lighted white candles on both sides of the centerpiece gave the room an atmosphere of serenity and high spiritual vibrations.

Over sixty members and friends of Camp Serenity enjoyed the social which was well attended by the Ministers and members of The Brotherhood Spiritualist Church and the Redwood Spiritualist Church. Also in attendance were the two youngest lyceum members, Sherrill Jean Berness and Harry F. Ream IV, dressed in their little green and white lyceum outfits with the triangular green and white emblems.

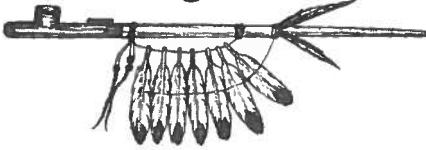
In retrospect, the past year has been one of growth and attainment. Under the guidance of Angel Loved Ones, our land was purchased and dedicated to Spirit. Today on this humble piece of land our Chapel of Awareness stands, with all its charm and dignity, free and clear of all encumbrances.

The "Light of Serenity Lyceum" was brought into manifestation from the World of Spirit and our progressive system of Spiritual illumination through education was set into motion at our first Campfire Seminar.

We are already in the process of raising funds for the Andrew Jackson Davis Pioneer Lodge. Our "Spiritual

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

Prayers of Black Eagle



Thou art, Infinite Intelligence, the Light and Life of all this wondrous world we see and know and all that it contains. We are part of thee children of Thine, and as children, partakers of all that which we can conceive as radiating from Infinite Mind. May we, therefore, become more receptive, growing to a greater consciousness of Thee; and as we accept more of Thee, may our lives become more beautiful in expression.



OPEN DOORS (CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)

a spirit?
Does a spirit ever haunt a person?
What is the world of spirit like?
How are you sure we go into a spiritual world and not a heaven or hell?
If spirits don't wait around to be called, what do they do?
In spirit life do you keep aging?
When a person is very old when passing and their thinking is very old, do they pass on again as a second death?
Do you believe in reincarnation?
Have you had the experience of telepathy?
What happens if you commit suicide?
How do you know when you're a medium?
Has a troubled spirit ever contacted you from the world of spirit?
When you contact a spirit, is he a Spiritualist?
Why is it not widely known that Spiritualism is scientific and why is it not taught in the colleges and universities?
How do you know it isn't all mental?
What would stop me from saying that

CONCLUDED ON PAGE 4

OPEN LINE

Rick. We all love and miss you, but from what we hear, you are progressing rapidly and are very happy.

Four Page POCKET FOLDERS, ideal for understanding the "Law of Attraction." Fifty for \$1.00 plus 25¢ for mailing.

Why I Am A Spiritualist

By Audre Easterday

The door to spiritual unfoldment was opened to me through Spiritualism. My husband passed away last year at the age of 60 and I was grief stricken. A friend of mine noting my grief invited me to attend his Spiritualist Church as he had received a new meaning and outlook on life through Spiritualism.

The decision to go was one of the most fortunate decisions of my life. My sister and I went to church with the hope I would get a message from or about my husband. This I did not get but my son in the Spirit World, through the medium, asked me not to grieve so, as it hindered the Spiritual progress of my loved ones in the Spirit World.



Through Spiritualism I have found a wonderful philosophy of life and it is helping me have a greater understanding of the meaning of spiritual unfoldment and "Thy Will Be Done."

The Bible through Jesus teaches life after death and that we have a Soul. My previous thoughts about life left many questions unanswered. The teaching of the Bible through Spiritualism has given me a greater understanding of our reason for being here. It revealed to me God's plan of ETERNAL PROGRESSION on this plane as well as the hereafter. It teaches that at the moment of conception we have a Soul which is ETERNAL and is a part of God and there is NOT death, only a transition to a new sphere of continued life.

I have found work and companionship with a number of spiritually minded people, dedicated to the goal of helping others. Many pleasant hours have been spent working for the building of Camp Serenity which is dedicated to the furtherance of Spiritual knowledge.

THE REDWOOD CHURCH

N. S. A. C.

Science Philosophy Religion

Devotional Services

Sun. 10:45 A.M.

Rev. Clyde Dibble

Pastor

149 Clinton St. Redwood City, Calif.
Public Cordially Invited

Ascending and Descending

Excerpts from
THEY LIVE A REPORT
by Roland F. Nye

Spiritualism declares that although one may have no interest in the subject of survival after death and may rest content with the vague traditional beliefs of his religious environment, he betrays illiberality of mind and fear of new knowledge when by word or by calculated silence he maintains, without examination, that belief in spirit return and communication is fanatic, fantastic and fallacious. Such dogmatism condemns itself to ignorance. "To abandon these spiritual phenomena to incredulity is to commit a treason against human reason." Victor Hugo.

Because Spiritualist mediums brave contumely the departed whom the world accounts for dead are enabled to demonstrate that they are neither sleeping nor dead. Spiritualism is both feared and loved; feared because it challenges the unsupportable dogmas of both materialism and orthodox theology; loved, because it is Jacob's ladder set upon the earth—the top of it reaches to heaven; and behold the angels are ascending and descending it.

(Genesis 28:12)

Declaration of Principles

N. S. A. C.

1. WE BELIEVE IN INFINITE INTELLIGENCE.

By this we express our belief in a supreme Impersonal Power, everywhere present, manifesting as life, through all forms of organized matter, called by some, God, by others, Spirit and by Spiritualists, Infinite Intelligence.

Appreciation

Many of the beautiful messages found in your Serenity Sentinel come from folks like you who want to share with others their wonderful Spiritual experiences.

The Serenity Sentinel is the medium of sharing. Your contributions guarantee the publication.

For your comments and convenience our address is listed in the subscription blank on the last page of the Sentinel.

Telephone Talks

Staff Writer

SELF RELIANCE

How great is this gift from Heaven!

With the breath of life came the essence of Divine strength and wisdom, the power within man that is enduring and dependable, his only potential for successful living.

Awareness of this close unity with the Infinite is the basis upon which the unlimited possibilities of the individual are manifested.

How worthy it is of our best efforts to keep the knowledge of our true identity fully active in our personal development.

Self reliance is kept vital by the value we place upon it and by nurturing it with reactions to life that strengthen it, for it is a product of reliance upon the Spirit within.

Personal freedom is something we would hesitate to relinquish knowingly.

Yet we surrender it bit by bit every time we put undue dependence upon other people or upon things outside ourselves.

Unfortunately we are unmindful of our loss until we feel the restrictions to which we have thoughtlessly subjected ourselves.



OPTIMISM

I'll waste no time in looking back,
For yesterday has fled;
No need to dwell upon the past
When there's today instead.

I'd like to make it better,
More worthwhile in every way,
As proof I've learned a little
Just from living yesterday.

And the greatest consolation,
When with troubles I must cope,
Is in the knowing there's tomorrow
And with life there's always hope!

Jerre H.

THE SPIRITUAL SCIENCE OF LIFE CHURCH

N. S. A. C.

Devotional Services

Sun. 7:45 p.m.

Rudolf Gorzolla

Pastor

157 No. 4th St.

San Jose, Calif.

Public Cordially Invited

The Harmonial Philosophy

By Andrew Jackson Davis

BOOK I

REVELATIONS OF DIVINE BEING WHAT AND WHERE IS GOD?

The mind is incarnated in a physical temple of which the dome is measured by inches, but its thoughts and affections expand into greater dimensions. Earth is too limited, and its materiality is too obvious for the soul. It seeks those living orbs that roll through infinitude... Star after star is counted; constellations are mapped out, like milestones along familiar roads. Still the mind goes on. It reaches the ineffable mysteries of the sidereal heavens, those invisible worlds of grandeur beyond the most distant stars. Amazed at the splendors and harmony, pulsating with joy and the desire to know yet more, the soul demands: what and where is God? The fields of science have been traversed the beauties of art have been displayed for our contemplation; the religious works of all nations have been searched, that the soul might comprehend and gaze upon the Supernal Ruler of the universe; but he remains the unseen, uncomprehended Father of all spirits-pure, holy, everlasting, infinite. Belief in God, or in a superior power, is indigenous to the soul and consequently to all nations and tribes on the surface of the earth. While individual conceptions of God reflect prevailing beliefs for the vast majority, to the mind which thinks independently such notions will be representative of the person himself, and to this extent God is in our likeness. They may be scientific, philosophical or theological. God considered scientifically is the greatest fact in the universe - the greatest principle and reality. He is the active or moving Principle, contrasted with which Nature is moved or passive. He is Being, of absolute necessity. Vitalizing all things, He dwells with all substances and elements, and individualizes His motion, life, sensation and intelligence therein. It is true therefore that God is nature Being substance in and of Himself, and exerting an active and moving power continual in the empire of matter, it is reasonable to conclude that his attributes and elements are also matter or substance. All of his modes of motion may be generalized under attraction and repulsion or - in the language of Harmonial Philosophy - as association, progression and development. But a scientific inquiry into the nature and mode of God is the first and most inferior effort of human reason, and

its conclusions are of an external kind, true only so far as they go.

Philosophy, on the other hand, considers God in reference to principles, causes and designs, instead of things, effects and phenomena, which are the province of science. He is for philosophy the Great Central Source of life, love, order and form. Nature exists and operates between God and His designs while the end or issue of such design must correspond to the magnitude and majesty of the Inventor. Contemplate that Eternal Center from which proceeded the innumerable worlds of emminency, and reason will confess that God is positive but all else negative. Spirit and matter must not be confounded nor separated. When defining spirit I have been compelled to employ the term matter, in the absence of a better word, because it is expressive of substance, and such is spirit. So also the Positive Mind must not be confounded with Nature, nor separated therefrom. God is as distinct from Nature as is the human soul from its body. He is personal in the sense that he contains the principles of perception, and all other principles; yet he is not separate from or outside Nature. His mode of being and action is determined by that inevitable constitution of things, of which he is the Unfolder, Sustainer and Co-essential.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS . . .

December 13th . . . Christmas Dinner Social

ANNIVERSARY (CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)

Mountain Haven" will continue to grow and expand in fulfillment of the principle for which it was dedicated, "for the good of humanity." With the continued guidance of our Spirit Loved Ones the Andrew Jackson Davis Pioneer Lodge will be the second step toward the fulfillment of the "impossible dream."

FAITH was the keyword that founded our humble camp and with continued FAITH our Spiritual retreat will be a VISION of the past and a REALITY of tomorrow.

THE BROTHERHOOD SPIRITUALIST

Church Of Alameda

N.S.A.C.

Devotional Services

Sun. 7:30 P.M.

1407 9th Street

Alameda, Calif.

Only N.S.A.C. Church in East Bay

Public Cordially Invited

Psychical Susceptibility and Mediumship

by Suzanne Bray

We know that psychical susceptibility and mediumship are dependent upon the constitutional characteristics or composition and make-up of the traits and features of the spirit body. We also know that mediumship depends upon a person's sensitivity to emanations of waves of electro-magnetic energy from the spirit body and there must be psychic attunement between incarnate and excarnate individuals.

Whether these characteristics are inherited, to a greater or lesser degree, or due, in part, to the thoughts and life of the parents during the prenatal stage, is a debatable issue.

It is the age-old question of which came first, the chicken or the egg? Do the parents of the individual by conditions of heredity determine the nature and quality of the etheric body or does the Spirit of Life direct to the unborn body the Soul Essence that would best manifest psychical traits through the instrument or physical body to which it has been directed?

If the latter were the case, a truly superior brand of mediums would develop because by reason of heredity, environment and family associations, the Soul Essence would be directed to that unborn physical body which would be the best vehicle for the presentation of the natural endowments and spiritual gifts of the individual.

It follows that physical, mental and moral factors are extremely important in determining the nature and quality of the phenomena.

Taking these facts into consideration, it would explain why some individuals

are destined to be natural born mediums while others devote years to their

medial unfoldment with every degree of success or failure.

OPEN DOORS (CONCLUDED)

I see spirit now?
When you contact spirit where do you go, do you just pop in?
Where are the Spiritualist churches located?
Do you have any proof of vibrations or is it faith?
How do spirits reach us?
Under what conditions would you be able to hold a seance?
How does Christianity fit into Spiritualism or how does Spiritualism see Christianity?
Do you only see a spirit if you believe in it?
What are the powers of the spirit?
Must you be a psychic or medium to

be a Spiritualist?
Was Joan of Arc a medium?
Do Spiritualists believe in God?
Is Infinite Intelligence a Being or Power?
Is the spirit a part of God in us?
You said in your opening statement that Spiritualism helps to mold ones character. Could you explain this?
Are you able as a medium to communicate with a person still in the flesh?
Someone told me that when a person sleeps their spirit leaves their body.
Do you know anything about this?
What do you feel that you've gained by being a Spiritualist?
How do you feel that it helps you in your every day life?
Do you prepare people for death at time of transition and do you prepare or give any sacraments?

This reporter feels that this was one of the most stimulating and active classes showing interest in our beautiful religion of Spiritualism. Mr. Goodwin was invited to return at a future date.



Frank X. Troglione
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P.O. Box 137, Forest Knolls, CA 94933
EDITORIAL DEPT.

Richard P. Goodwin . . Editor
Audre Easterday . . Asst. Editor
Pauline Leonard . . Staff Writer
Suzanne Bray . . Staff Reporter
Waneva Pearce . . Staff Artist

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